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Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/924,108	YAMAZAKI ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Mariceli Santiago	2879	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

- 1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Preliminary Amendment filed August 8, 2001.
- 2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-48.
- 3. ☒ The drawings filed on 13 December 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
- 4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 - 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

- 5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 - 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>8/01</u> | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

The Amendment, filed on August 8, 2001, has been entered and acknowledged by the Examiner.

Claims 1-48 are pending in the instant application.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-48 are allowed over the prior art of record.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claims 1-4 and 25-28, the references of the Prior Art of record fails to teach or suggest the combination of the limitations as set forth in claim 1-4 and 25-28, and specifically comprising the limitation of the photodiode includes a photoelectric conversion layer that is in contact with a part of a P-type semiconductor layer and an N-type semiconductor layer, the photoelectric conversion layer is made of an amorphous semiconductor film, and the photoelectric conversion layer is thicker than the P-type semiconductor layer and the N-type semiconductor layer.

Regarding claims 5, 9, 13, 17 and 21, claims 5, 9, 13, 17 and 21 are allowable for the reasons given in claim 1 because of their dependency status from claim 1.

Regarding claims 6, 10, 14, 18 and 22, claims 6, 10, 14, 18 and 22 are allowable for the reasons given in claim 2 because of their dependency status from claim 2.

Regarding claims 7, 11, 15, 19 and 23, claims 7, 11, 15, 19 and 23 are allowable for the reasons given in claim 3 because of their dependency status from claim 3.

Regarding claims 8, 12, 16, 20 and 24, claims 8, 12, 16, 20 and 24 are allowable for the reasons given in claim 4 because of their dependency status from claim 4.

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Regarding claims 29, 33, 37, 41 and 45, claims 29, 33, 37, 41 and 45 are allowable for the reasons given in claim 25 because of their dependency status from claim 25.

Regarding claims 30, 34, 38, 42 and 46, claims 30, 34, 38, 42 and 46 are allowable for the reasons given in claim 26 because of their dependency status from claim 26.

Regarding claims 31, 35, 39, 43 and 47, claims 31, 35, 39, 43 and 47 are allowable for the reasons given in claim 27 because of their dependency status from claim 27.

Regarding claims 32, 36, 40, 44 and 48, claims 32, 36, 40, 44 and 48 are allowable for the reasons given in claim 28 because of their dependency status from claim 28.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Other Prior Art Cited

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mariceli Santiago whose telephone number is (571) 272-2464. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9:30 AM to 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nimesh Patel, can be reached on (571) 272-2457. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

MS 8/17/05

Mariceli Santiago
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2879